

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-143. Canceled.

144. (Currently Amended) A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising the steps of: (a) implanting a silicon implant into a human or animal, the implant comprising a drug and resorbable mesoporous silicon, having a pore size between 20 and 500Å, the drug being at least partly located in the pores of the porous silicon; and (b) allowing the porous silicon to erode.

145. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 144 wherein the implant also comprises macroporous silicon.

146. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 144 wherein the drug is at least partly located in the silicon skeleton in which the pores are formed.

147. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 144 wherein the resorbable mesoporous silicon has a porosity between 2% and 80%.

148. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 147 wherein the resorbable mesoporous silicon has a porosity between 4% and 55%.

149. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 144 wherein the resorbable mesoporous silicon has a structure such that it is tissue compatible.

150. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 144 wherein in step (b) the resorbable mesoporous silicon erodes over an interval of between one month and two years.

151. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 144 wherein the implant has a largest dimension x , wherein $0 < x \leq 2$ mm.

152. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 144 wherein the drug is distributed through substantially the whole volume of the material of said implant.

153. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 144 wherein the implant comprises substantially entirely resorbable mesoporous silicon.